

## Random Trivia

(Questions Only)

1. What do you call the knee-length skirt of pleated tartan cloth, traditionally worn by men of the Scottish Highland?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. What vessels carry blood away from the heart?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. What was the name of Barbie's boyfriend, who was first introduced in 1961?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What song lyrics include this line: "Oh, give me land, lots of land under starry skies above"?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. What comic strip was set on a fictional U.S. Army post named Camp Swampy? **Hint:** The title of the strip is the name of its main character, who is a lovable but lazy private.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. What famous African American leader of the late 19th and early 20th centuries founded what is now known as Tuskegee University?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which of these cities is **NOT** in South America: Rio de Janeiro, Johannesburg, Buenos Aires?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

8. What is the term for the thick hair that surrounds a lion's head?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

9. What 1962 movie portrayed the story of T.E. Lawrence, the English officer who united warring Arab tribes to fight the Turks during World War I?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

10. What is found at the center of our solar system?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Canadian army doctor John McCrae wrote the poem "In Flanders Fields" after the second Battle of Ypres (*EE pruh*). During which war did this battle take place?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

12. What color do people commonly associate with carrots?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

13. First airing in 1932, what science-fiction radio program featured a space adventurer named Buck?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

14. What English writer wrote *A Room with a View*, *Howards End*, and *A Passage to India*: D. H. Lawrence, E. M. Forster, or Virginia Woolf?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

15. What is Australia's smallest state?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

16. Which of these idioms indicates a setback: "a fly in the ointment" or "a fly on the wall"?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

17. What is the main ingredient in tofu?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

18. What does *N* stand for on the periodic table of elements?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

19. Who said, "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind"?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

20. What are the two official languages spoken in Canada?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

21. What two Hershey's products used the jingle "Sometimes you feel like a nut. Sometimes you don't"?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

22. What device is typically mounted on top of a building and has a revolving pointer to show wind direction?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

23. Who was the first female co-anchor of a network evening news program? **Hint:** She also had long-standing jobs on NBC's *Today Show* and ABC's *20/20*.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

24. A kilogram is to mass as a meter is to what?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

25. What president had a plantation home called Mount Vernon?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

26. Kingston is the capital and largest city of what island nation located in the Caribbean?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

27. Colgate is known for selling what product?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

28. Istanbul in Turkey is located on what two continents?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

29. What does the Latin phrase *ad lib* mean?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

30. What is the first word typically spoken when answering the telephone?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

## Random Trivia

(Questions with Answers)

1. What do you call the knee-length skirt of pleated tartan cloth, traditionally worn by men of the Scottish Highland?

**Answer:** A kilt. The word *kilt* is a derivation of the ancient Norse word *kjilt*, which means "pleated." Scottish kilts date back to the 16th century.

2. What vessels carry blood away from the heart?

**Answer:** Arteries. Blood traveling through arteries is responsible for delivering oxygen and nutrients to the body's cells. Veins are blood vessels that bring the oxygen-depleted blood back to the heart.

3. What was the name of Barbie's boyfriend, who was first introduced in 1961?

**Answer:** Ken. He debuted at the American International Toy Fair on March 11, 1961. He was 12 inches tall and wore red bathing trunks and sandals.

4. What song lyrics include this line: "Oh, give me land, lots of land under starry skies above"?

**Answer:** "Don't Fence Me In." Cole Porter originally wrote the song for a musical called *Adios, Argentina* that never made it to the stage. Years later, Roy Rogers sang it in the 1944 musical *Hollywood Canteen*.

5. What comic strip was set on a fictional U.S. Army post named Camp Swampy? **Hint:** The title of the strip is the name of its main character, who is a lovable but lazy private.

**Answer:** Beetle Bailey. Beetle Bailey debuted in 1950 and continues to run in newspapers today. Mort Walker created the comic for 68 years. After his death, his sons Brian and Greg took over the strip.

6. What famous African American leader of the late 19th and early 20th centuries founded what is now known as Tuskegee University?

**Answer:** Booker T. Washington. Washington was also a political adviser to both President Roosevelt and President Taft.

7. Which of these cities is **NOT** in South America: Rio de Janeiro, Johannesburg, Buenos Aires?

**Answer:** Johannesburg. Rio de Janeiro is a city in Brazil, and Buenos Aires is the capital of Argentina. Johannesburg is a city in South Africa.

8. What is the term for the thick hair that surrounds a lion's head?

**Answer:** The mane. Field biologists believe that the primary purpose of a lion's mane is to attract female attention for the propagation of the species.

9. What 1962 movie portrayed the story of T.E. Lawrence, the English officer who united warring Arab tribes to fight the Turks during World War I?

**Answer:** *Lawrence of Arabia*. Peter O'Toole starred as T.E. Lawrence. He was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role for that part. The film received seven Oscars, including Best Picture and Best Director.

10. What is found at the center of our solar system?

**Answer:** The sun. The sun is a star composed primarily of hydrogen and helium gas.

11. Canadian army doctor John McCrae wrote the poem "In Flanders Fields" after the second Battle of Ypres (*EE pruh*). During which war did this battle take place?

**Answer:** WWI. McCrae wrote the poem in honor of his close friend and compatriot Lieutenant Alexis Helmer, who died in battle.

12. What color do people commonly associate with carrots?

**Answer:** Orange. Carrots can also be grown in purple, red, yellow, and white varieties. Carrots contain the antioxidants lutein and zeaxanthin (*zee uh ZAN thin*), which help prevent age-related macular degeneration.

13. First airing in 1932, what science-fiction radio program featured a space adventurer named Buck?

**Answer:** *Buck Rogers in the 25th Century*. The radio program ran from 1932 to 1946. *Buck Rogers* first appeared as a comic strip in newspapers in 1929.

14. What English writer wrote *A Room with a View*, *Howards End*, and *A Passage to India*: D. H. Lawrence, E. M. Forster, or Virginia Woolf?

**Answer:** E. M. Forster. Forster's novels often examined class differences and hypocrisy as well as the changes in moral viewpoints heading into the 20th century.

15. What is Australia's smallest state?

**Answer:** Tasmania. Tasmania is an island located off Australia's southern coast. A large portion of the state is considered a national parkland and a World Heritage area.

16. Which of these idioms indicates a setback: "a fly in the ointment" or "a fly on the wall"?

**Answer:** "A fly in the ointment." The phrase "a fly in the ointment" indicates something that has spoiled an otherwise pleasant situation. To be a "fly on the wall" refers to the desire to observe someone or something without being noticed.

17. What is the main ingredient in tofu?

**Answer:** Soybeans. Soybeans are curdled and pressed into blocks to make tofu.

18. What does *N* stand for on the periodic table of elements?

**Answer:** Nitrogen. Nitrogen at room temperature is a colorless, odorless gas. It is believed to make up 78 percent of the air we breathe.

19. Who said, "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind"?

**Answer:** Neil Armstrong. He said this now-famous quote as he stepped onto the surface of the moon in 1969.

20. What are the two official languages spoken in Canada?

**Answer:** English and French. According to the 2011 census, English is spoken by 57% of Canadians, while 22% speak French. Quebec is home to most of the native French speakers in Canada.

21. What two Hershey's products used the jingle "Sometimes you feel like a nut. Sometimes you don't"?

**Answer:** Almond Joy and Mounds candy bars. The song continues, "Almond Joy's got nuts, Mounds don't."

22. What device is typically mounted on top of a building and has a revolving pointer to show wind direction?

**Answer:** Weather vane. The first known weather vane was created by the Greek astronomer Andronicus around 48 BC.

23. Who was the first female co-anchor of a network evening news program? **Hint:** She also had long-standing jobs on NBC's *Today Show* and ABC's *20/20*.

**Answer:** Barbara Walters. In the early 2000s, Walters became the highest-paid news host in history with a reported yearly salary of \$12 million. She has also won numerous honors, including 34 Emmy Awards.

24. A kilogram is to mass as a meter is to what?

**Answer:** Length. There are three main units of measurement in the metric system: meters for length, kilograms for mass, and seconds for time.

25. What president had a plantation home called Mount Vernon?

**Answer:** George Washington. Today, the estate includes a mansion, gardens, tombs, a working farm, and a functioning distillery and gristmill.

26. Kingston is the capital and largest city of what island nation located in the Caribbean?

**Answer:** Jamaica. The current population of Jamaica is just under three million.

27. Colgate is known for selling what product?

**Answer:** Toothpaste. Founded in 1806, Colgate was not always a toothpaste company. William Colgate originally sold soaps and candles when he opened his shop in New York City.

28. Istanbul in Turkey is located on what two continents?

**Answer:** Asia and Europe. The city straddles the Bosphorus Strait, which is the natural boundary between the Asian and European continents.

29. What does the Latin phrase *ad lib* mean?

**Answer:** "To improvise." The phrase was shortened from the Latin term *ad libitum*, which meant "to (one's) pleasure, as much as one likes."

30. What is the first word typically spoken when answering the telephone?

**Answer:** "Hello." This may seem like an obvious answer, but it was far less used in everyday life when Thomas Edison first suggested the salutation. In fact, Alexander Graham Bell argued that "ahoy-hoy" be used instead.